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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/804,095	03/19/2004	Toshiharu Ito	037267-0151	7891
22428	7590	12/14/2005	EXAMINER	
FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP SUITE 500 3000 K STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20007			BLEVINS, JERRY M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2883	

DATE MAILED: 12/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/804,095	ITO, TOSHIHARU	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jerry Martin Blevins	2883	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Election/Restrictions*

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

I. An optical module or optical fiber communication system comprising an optical module, wherein the module includes:

- a) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical I/O line;
- b) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical I/O line;
- c) an optical amplifier;
- d) a bypass circuit;
- e) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical connector or optical 3-port circulator; and
- f) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical connector or optical 3-port circulator,

relating to claims 1-9, 24, 28, 31(3;4), 32, and 36.

II. An optical module or optical fiber communication system comprising an optical module, wherein the module includes:

- a) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical I/O line;

- b) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical I/O line;
- c) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical 3-port connector;
- d) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical 3-port connector;
- e) an optical amplifier;
- f) a 1<sup>st</sup> bypass circuit;
- g) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical filter;
- h) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical filter; and
- i) a 2<sup>nd</sup> bypass circuit,

relating to claims 10-17, 22, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31(10-13;14-17), 33, 34, and 37-39.

III. An optical module or optical fiber communication system comprising an optical module, wherein the module includes:

- a) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical I/O line;
- b) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical I/O line;
- c) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical 3-port connector;
- d) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical 3-port connector;
- e) an optical amplifier;
- f) a 1<sup>st</sup> bypass circuit;
- g) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical filter;
- h) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical filter;

- i) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical amplifier;
- j) a 2<sup>nd</sup> bypass circuit;
- k) a 3<sup>rd</sup> optical filter; and
- l) a 4<sup>th</sup> optical filter,

relating to claims 18-21, 27, and 35.

IV. An optical module including:

- a) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical I/O line;
- b) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical I/O line;
- c) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical amplifier;
- d) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical amplifier;
- e) a 1<sup>st</sup> optical 3-port circulator; and
- f) a 2<sup>nd</sup> optical 3-port circulator,

relating to claim 23.

V. An optical fiber communication system comprising two distinct optical modules, wherein the 1<sup>st</sup> optical module is an optical module of the type of species I and the 2<sup>nd</sup> optical module is an optical module of the type of species II, relating to claim 31(3,14-17; 10-13,4).

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Art Unit: 2883

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerry Martin Blevins whose telephone number is 571-272-8581. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on 571-272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JMB



Frank G. Font  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
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